

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A fusion polypeptide comprising a first and second polypeptide, the polypeptides having an affinity with respect to each other, wherein the first polypeptide is a an interleukin-6, interleukin-11, CNTF cytokine of the interleukin-6 family, or subunit thereof, and the second polypeptide is a receptor, or subunit thereof, that binds to the first polypeptide, wherein the first and second polypeptides are linked to each other via a polypeptide linker.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The fusion polypeptide according to claim 1, wherein the receptor is a subunit of a cytokine receptor and binds to a ligand.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The fusion polypeptide according to claim 1, wherein the cytokine is a subunit of a cytokine and binds to said receptor.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The fusion polypeptide according to claim 1, wherein the receptor is an IL-6 receptor and the cytokine is IL-6.

Claim 5. (Withdrawn) The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the cytokine receptor is a CNTF receptor and the cytokine is a CNTF.

Claim 6. (Canceled)

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) DNA coding for the fusion polypeptide according to claim 1.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) An expression plasmid comprising the DNA according to claim 7.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) A transformant containing the expression plasmid according to claim 8.

Claim 10. (Canceled)

Claim 11. (Canceled)

Claim 12. (Canceled)

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The fusion polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the receptor is an IL-11 receptor and the cytokine is IL-11.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition comprising the fusion polypeptide of claim 1 or the DNA of claim 7, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.